

From: Wade Farlowe
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 2:06am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Wade Farlowe

4301 Wooded Way #18

Louisville, KY 40219

January 23, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I strongly support your efforts to end the Microsoft antitrust litigation, now of three years in length, and implement the settlement reached by the parties. I think this lawsuit should never have seen daylight. I am not alone in this. The lawsuit is unproductive and disruptive. By putting the suit behind us, the American computer industry will be freed to innovate at the world-leading pace it had held for many years.

In order to end that litigation uncertainty and wasteful expense, Microsoft has agreed to, give up some of its rights, and make it easier for other companies to work with its Windows operating system. Microsoft has agreed to make it easier to remove the useful programs it includes in Windows, such as Internet Explorer, Windows Media Player and Windows Messenger. So, if AOL Time Warner wanted to contract with a computer builder, such as Dell, to put Netscape Navigator and AOL Messenger on the desktop and remove Microsoft's offering they could do that. Microsoft has also agreed to have a technical monitoring committee come into its business to check for compliance with the agreement and check out any complaints by third parties. All of these terms show a Microsoft that wants to cooperate for the good of the American computer industry and to move on to better innovations, rather than wasteful unproductive time in legal wrangling.

I feel you are taking the right road in supporting the settlement of this case. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christopher Wade Farlowe